

REMARKS

The Non-final Office Action dated November 15, 2006 was considered and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1, 25, 29, 37, and 74 have been amended. Claim 72 has been canceled. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-43, 73 and 74 are pending.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowability of claim 72 over prior art.

Claim 72 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 for a typographical error. The typographical error has been corrected and claim 72 has been incorporated into claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 8-43, and 74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swartz (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0028368) in view of Friedman (U.S. Patent No. 6,167,455). Claims 3-7, and 73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swartz and Friedman in view of Aragon (U.S. Patent No. 6,055,327). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate features of claim 72. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-43, 73 and 74 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-43, 73 and 74 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above

Type of Response: Amendment
Application Number: 09/502,970
Attorney Docket Number: 130718.01
Filing Date: February 11, 2000

Application is requested. Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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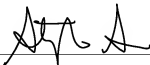
If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 13, 2006

By: _____



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Kate Marochkina

Printed Name

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